THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA) : (a) and(b) It is not a fact that Parliament passed the Lokpal Bill five times. Five attempts were, however, made by the Government in 1968, 1971, 1977, 1985 and 1989 to enact the Lokpal Bill in Parliament but this did not succeed because everytime when the Bill was under consideration of Parliament, the Lok Sabha was dissolved and consequently the Bills, lapsed.

(c) A representation from Shri Chimanbhai Mehta, Hon'ble Member, Rajya Sabha, was received in August, 1993, in which he brought out the role of institutions in various countries abroad to combat corruption at various levels.

(d) In the recent past, one Commission of Enquiry on corruption charges was appointed by the Central Government, in June, 1989 to enquire into certain land transactions in Karnataka. The Report of the Commission was sent to the State Government for appropriate action. Copies of the Report along with the Memorandum on action taken were placed on the Tables of the both Houses of Parliament. During the last 10 years, Central Government has not appointed any Commission of Enquiry against Chief Ministers of Punjab, Tamil Nadu, Orissa, and Jammu & Kashmir relating to corruption. However, such Commissions of Enquiry set up prior to 1983 had submitted their Report, which were sent to State Governments concerned, for appropriate action.

(e) No, Sir. Government have been taking appropriate action, including legislative measures to combat corruption at various levels.

Pak bid to obtain more F-16 Aircrafts

*20. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that as reported in the Times of India dated 3rd September, 1993 India has shown concern over Pakistan's bid for obtaining more F-16 Aircrafts ;

(b) if so, whether this would greatly enhance Pakistan Airforce to reach into Indian Territory ;

(c) if so, whether it has also been reported that Pakistan currently owns 3 Squardrons of the US-made Long-Range State-of-the Art Missiles for F-16 Aircrafts ;

(d) whether obtaining of more F-16 Aircrafts would greatly affect India's Airforce capability ; and

(e) if so, what action Government propose to take in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI MALLIKARJUN) : (a) to (e) According to available information Pakistan has 3 Sqns. Of F-16 aircraft in its inventory. There is no information to suggest that these squadrons are equipped with Long Range state-of-the-art missiles. The acquisition of additional F-16 aircraft would enhance Pakistan's Air Defence as well as offensive capability. Pakistan's continuous efforts to acquire sophisticated armaments well beyond its legitimate defence needs is a cause of concern Government monitor all such developments having a bearing on India's security to take necessary measures to ensure adequate defence preparedness.

Mining of Uranium in Meghalaya

1. SHRI G. G. SWELL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government of Meghalaya has accorded its consent to the mining of uranium at Domiasiat and Khasi Hills in Meghalaya ;

(b) if so, what is the present state of the infrastructure ;

(c) whether more uranium has been discovered in adjoining and other parts of the Khasi Hills ; and